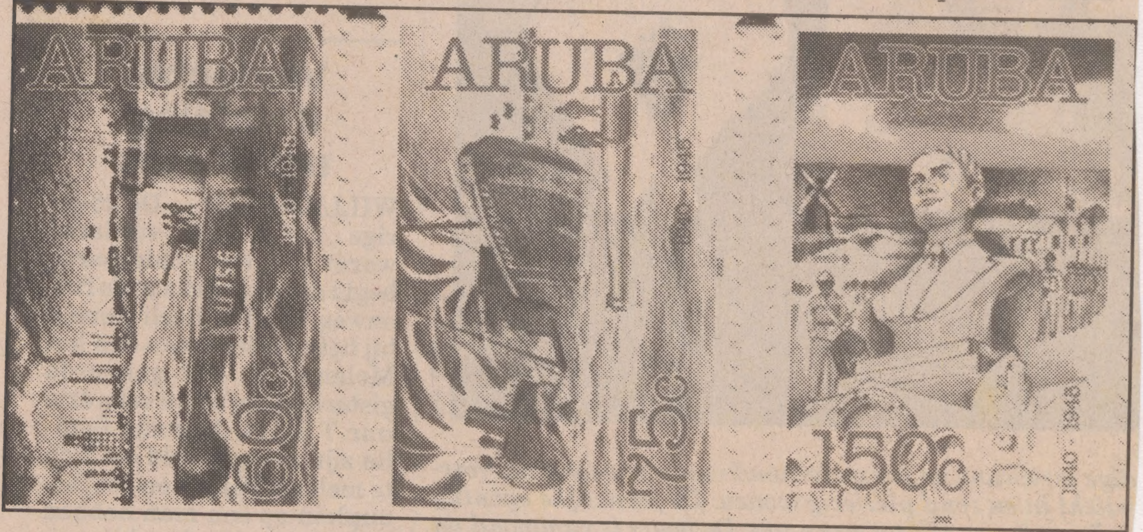
Nieuwe postzegels

ORANJESTAD — Onlangs heeft de directie Posterijen een serie van drie nieuwe postzegels uitgegeven, met als thema Aruba in de Tweede Wereldoorlog. De postzegels worden uitgegeven met de waarden van 60, 75 en 150 cent. De ontwerpen zijn van de hand van beeldend kunstenaar Stan Kuiperi en de zegels zijn gedrukt bij Johan Enschede Stamps in Nederland. Op de zegel van 60 cent staat een aanval van de U-boot156 die de aanval opent op de Lago-raffinaderij. De postzegel van 75 cent laat de explosies zien op het getorpedeerde schip de Pedernales. Op de zegel van 150 cent staat Aruba's oorlogsheld Boy Ecury afgebeeld. Hij werd vanwege verzetswerk in Nederland door de Duitsers is geëxecuteerd. De serie van drie zegels is ook te koop met een Eerste Dagenveloppe. De zegels zijn verkrijgbaar bij de verschillende postkantoren op het eiland tot september 2004.



Postal Services introduce "Historical Stamps (War) 2002"



As of today, September 9, 2002, the Postal Services of Aruba have put available to the general public a new series of historical stamps with as theme "war."

The designs by Stan Kuiperi are all done in black and white, recreating wartime photography and accentuating the fact that these images are fading memories from half a century ago. Each stamp has a color band through the design, pointing out the fact that the sceneries depicted in the stamps are real geographical places, existing today "in color," and in peace.

The stamps printed by Johan Enschede Stamps in the Netherlands are of indefinite validity and are available in three denominations: 60 cents, 75 cents and 150 cents. The First-Day-Cover, printed on Aruba by ProGraphics N.V., is also available as of today.

The 60c stamp depicts the German U-156 submarine attack on the Lago Oil refinery, one of the main allied fuel suppliers in the world. The attack occurred on February 16, 1942, and is widely considered the first German attack on the western hemisphere. The German submarine crew fired cannon shots at docked ships and oil tanks, and also torpedoed several ships leaving the refinery harbor. Grumman Avenger war planes stationed on the island took off to defend the refinery, but could not find the submarine on the dark sea.

The 75c stamp depicts the torpedoing of the first of several ships on February 16, 1942 outside the Lago Oil refinery harbor by the German U-156 submarine. The Pedernales exploded and burned fiercely al night, but did not sink. The next day she was pushed ashore by tug boats and later sunk off-shore. Many other torpedoes were fired, some missing ships and getting stuck on the beach. The one depicted on this stamp, exploded the next day on Eagle Beach, killing several soldiers who were trying to dismantle it.

The 150c stamp commemorated the Aruban underground resistance fighter Boy Ecury who fought in the Netherlands during the war years. He was captured by Nazis and executed in November 1944 at the age of twenty-two, six months before the end of the war. The drawing shows the white marble statue of Boy Ecury, placed in Oranjestad. The design also shows members of the Aruba Militia ("Schutters") who were on active duty on Aruba during the war years.

The stamps and the First Day Cover are available at the Postal Services of Aruba in San Nicolas, Noord, Royal Plaza, Piedra Plat and Oranjestad until September 8, 2004. Orders can be placed at the Philatelic Service, Oranjestad Post Office, Aruba or by telephone at number (297) 821900, by fax at (297) 827930 or by email filatiearuba@setarnet.aw